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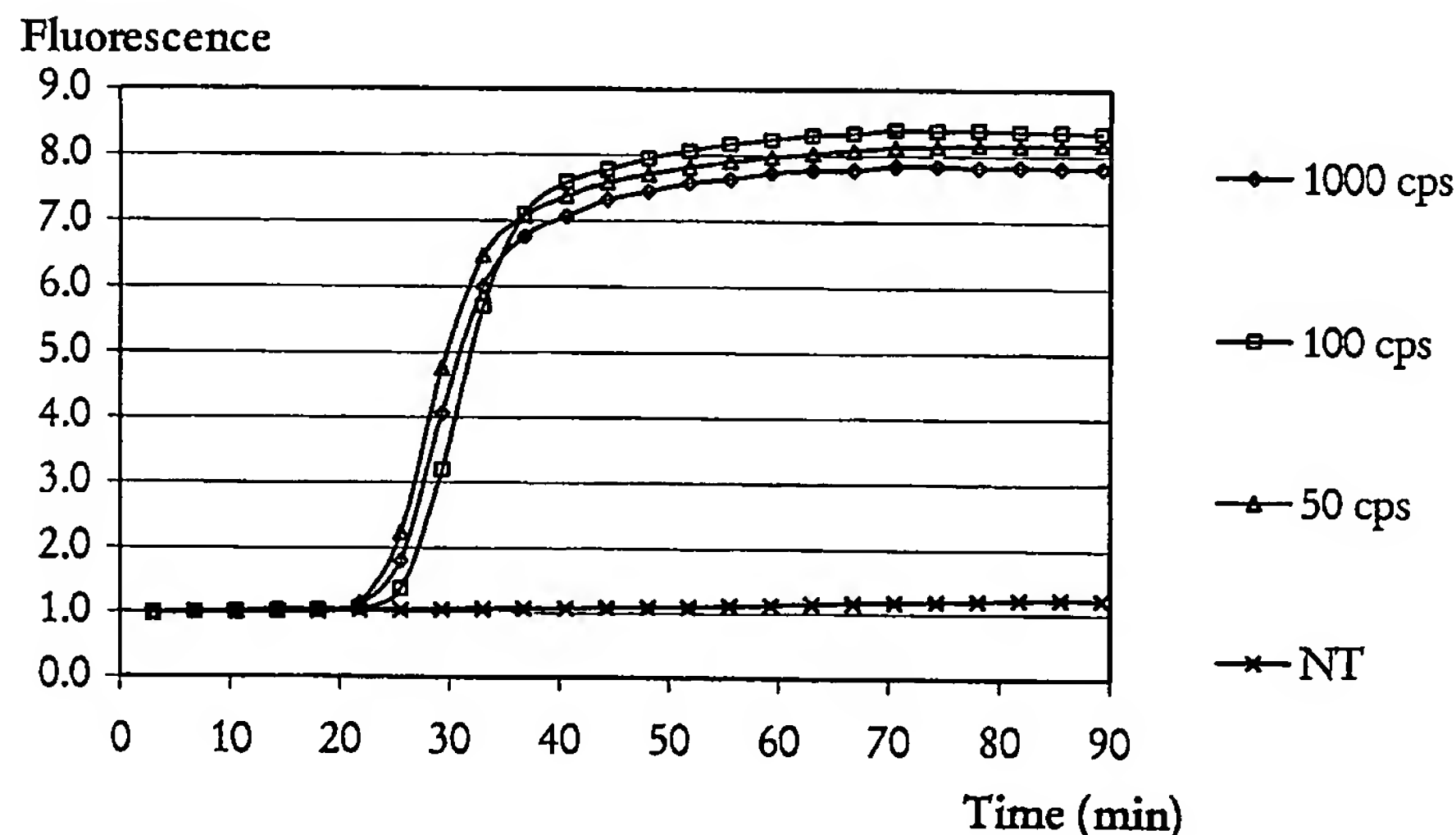
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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES THAT CAN BE USED AS PRIMERS AND PROBES IN THE AMPLIFICATION AND DETECTION OF SARS CORONAVIRUS



(57) Abstract: The present invention is related to nucleic acid sequences that can be used in the field of virus diagnostics, more specifically the diagnosis of infections with a novel human coronavirus causing Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). With the present invention nucleotide sequences are provided that can be used as primers and probes in the amplification and detection of SARS nucleic acid. The oligonucleotide sequences provided with the present invention are located in the replicase gene, the nucleocapsid gene and the 3' end non-coding region of the SARS Coronavirus genome. It has been found that, by using the sequences of the present invention in methods for the amplification and detection of nucleic acid a sensitive and specific detection of SARS Coronavirus can be obtained. The oligonucleotide sequences according to the present invention are especially useful in methods for the amplification of nucleic acid.

WO 2004/111274 A1



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